

My primary concern is that this has made marijuana so easily available to our youth. The amount of young people that have a card is unbelievable! How can marijuana be classified as a dangerous drug, yet doctors are recommending it for minor things such as menstrual cramps and toothaches? They are telling people, especially our youth, that it is not dangerous! The age at which these kids start smoking pot is the age that their brains stop developing! We should be spending our time and resources on helping these people better themselves to get further in life! Not allowing these doctors to continue making easy money, especially when it goes against what is ethical! In Cascade, the amount of kids in school that do use pot outweighs the kids that don't.

The growers are not doctors! They grow pot. They have not gone to school to "medicate" people. According to the Medical Marijuana Act that you passed, under no circumstance should they use marijuana themselves. But they are routinely being issued patient cards, as well as caregiver cards, by DPHHS. If a medical doctor was using a mind altering drug, would you allow him or her to work with patients? So why is it being allowed in this case? With a dangerous substance?

The amount of people for or against the repeal that are here today should not be used as an indication as to what you should do. I'm not being predudicial, but the supporters of medical marijuana are primarily card holders and growers. If they have a card, the odds are that they are on workers comp or disability, which means they probably don't have a job. That made it easier for them to be here. Are any of the doctors that are recommending marijuana for all of these people here? On the other hand, the supporters of the repeal represent the medical field, teachers, law enforcement, parents and local governments. We have had to take time off from our jobs to be here. We believe in this so much that we are willing to take the time to speak here today!

As you've heard, medical marijuana was originally for 3 main groups of patients. Those with glaucoma, cancer and multiple sclerosis. Records prove that these are NOT the 3 main groups that carry a medical marijuana card. The majority of the people carrying cards are the ones that are jeopardizing this program for the patients that truly need this. Supporters of the repeal want the abuse of this program stopped. It is not being used for the intended purpose. We need to stop all of it! Please repeal the Medical Marijuana Act, hold the doctors accountable and protect the children of Montana!